

(The remarks of Mr. GRAHAM pertaining to the introduction of S. 889 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

U.S. FOREIGN OIL CONSUMPTION FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 6

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending June 6, the United States imported 8,429,000 barrels of oil each day, 421,000 barrels more than the 8,008,000 imported each day during the same week a year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 56.6 percent of their needs last week, and there are no signs that the upward spiral will abate. Before the Persian Gulf war, the United States obtained approximately 45 percent of its oil supply from foreign countries. During the Arab oil embargo in the 1970's, foreign oil accounted for only 35 percent of America's oil supply.

Anybody else interested in restoring domestic production of oil? By U.S. producers using American workers?

Politicians had better ponder the economic calamity sure to occur in America if and when foreign producers shut off our supply—or double the already enormous cost of imported oil flowing into the United States—now 8,429,000 barrels a day.

THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REUNIFICATION OF JERUSALEM

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem and in welcoming Senate passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 21, which reaffirmed the Senate's views on this issue. This important event came about as a result of the 1967 Six-Day war, before which the city of Jerusalem was divided, with Jews denied access to the Old City and its holy sites.

We should not underestimate the significance of this event. Jerusalem has been undivided now for 30 years. As a result, people of all religious traditions have access to Jerusalem and all its religious sites. On this anniversary, and with Senate passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 21, we commit ourselves again to seeing that Jerusalem remains an undivided city in which the rights of every ethnic and religious group are protected.

This anniversary presents a good opportunity for us to assess progress toward peace in the Middle East. While the peace process is moving at a slower pace than many of us would like to see, it is important to acknowledge the difficulty of the task and the progress that has been made thus far under the Oslo accords. It is also important to point out the importance of security as the process unfolds. Previous terrorist attacks have provided graphic justification of Israel's security concerns. I urge the Palestinian Authority to see that its security forces cooperate fully

with Israeli security to thwart the work of the terrorists.

Again, I congratulate the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, and I commend them for ensuring that this holy and historic city is undivided.

Mr. FORD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. FORD. Since there is no other Senator here, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent I be permitted to speak for 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I further ask that, upon the completion of my remarks, the Senator from North Dakota, Senator DORGAN, be recognized for the 15 minutes that has been allotted to him as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEVILS LAKE FLOOD

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I have taken to the floor numerous times since the disasters that struck North Dakota and attempted to describe to my colleagues the really remarkable series of events that we have experienced: First of all, the greatest snowfall in our State's history; followed by a winter storm in early April that was the most powerful winter storm in 50 years, knocking out the electrical grid to 80,000 people for more than a week, leaving people with 15-foot snowdrifts, leaving people with the most powerful ice storm that we have ever seen that killed literally hundreds of thousands of cattle in North and South Dakota and also tied up the transportation system for most of our State, as well as much of South Dakota and parts of Minnesota. That was then followed by the 500-year flood, which was cataclysmic in Grand Forks. All of the dikes failed, a city of 50,000 was evacuated. Many of those people are still not back in their homes. In fact, 80 percent of the city of Grand Forks was in some way damaged by the floods. And, in the midst of all that, a fire broke out that destroyed much of downtown Grand Forks.

This is a series of events, unparalleled in our State's history, and it has left much of our economy in ruins. It has left people sleeping on cots, living in cars, wondering what will happen to them next. And, as I think everyone here knows now, the disaster bill has been delayed.

But the good news is, there are serious negotiations underway to resolve this issue and resolve it today, and for that we are extremely grateful.

Mr. President, I thought today, because I have spent a great deal of time describing the circumstances in Grand Forks, ND, and in the rest of the Red River Valley, that I would take a bit of time to describe the developing disaster in Devils Lake, ND, because not only have we had this remarkable series of events in the Red River Valley, but Devils Lake, a town of over 9,000 people, has had a slow-motion disaster occurring. This is one of only two major lakes in North America that has a closed basin—no inlet and no outlet. For the last 4 years, the lake has been rising inexorably.

This chart shows the historic water level of Devils Lake. This chart goes from 1867 to 1997, 130 years. You can see the recorded history is the blue line. Recorded history starts back in about 1890, and the lake was at about 1,423 feet. It then went into a period of steep decline where it went down to just over 1,400 feet. But look what has happened since the 1930's. That lake has been rising, sometimes falling, but in recent history, in the last 30 years, rising dramatically. And in the last 4 years, this lake has just gone up and up and up.

Some people might say, "Well, the lake is rising. You know, that's not that big a deal."

Mr. President, this lake is nearly 200 square miles. It is a huge lake. It is nearly three times the size of the entire area of the District of Columbia. This is a lake that is rising inexorably and is acting like a cancer. It is eating everything around it. It is submerging roads, it is inundating homes and bridges. It is just eating up the countryside. In the last 4 years, it has tripled in volume and doubled in size. It is very hard to understand or appreciate this circumstance, because nowhere else in the country do we face anything quite like it.

Mr. President, if I can just show this next chart, it shows the summary of damages in the Devils Lake area. As this lake level rises, you can see what happens to the cost in terms of damages. Already we have spent over \$114 million, and that is just from the Federal Government, addressing this disaster. But you can see as the water level rises, the estimates from the Army Corps of Engineers is that we would face over \$400 million in Federal costs if the lake level continues to rise. As I indicated, the Federal Government has already spent over \$114 million coping with this crisis.

This next picture shows the lake and how it has expanded. You can see, this is the luckiest guy in America today. He just got through on this road. He was driving along, and it looks like he escaped from the lake. You can see the lake coming over the road. This is actually a road, the Minnewaukan Flats Road, completely covered by water now. You can see the various tree lines.